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UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 000278

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL PTER UNSC LE AE

SUBJECT: LEBANON TRIBUNAL: UAE CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED

(SBU) The UN Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) has advised USUN that the UN received a contribution of USD 4,999,975 to the General UN Trust Fund on March 17 from the Abu Dhabi Finance Department. After trying unsuccessfully for the past week to contact the UAE Mission to confirm that the deposit was intended for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, OLA told USUN on March 27 that UNSCR 1559 envoy Terje Roed-Larsen was able to contact the UAE Foreign Minister directly to confirm that fact. The UAE Foreign Minister also reportedly told Larsen that the UAE wants the contribution to remain anonymous or characterized as a contribution from a state "in the region" for at least the time being.

KHALILZAD